WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC

ORDER NO. 5236

IN THE MATTER OF:

Served December 3, 1997

Case No. AP-97-56

Application of GOVERNMENT)
CONTRACTING RESOURCES, INC.,)
Trading as GCR, INC., for a)
Certificate of Authority --)
Irregular Route Operations)

Applicant seeks a certificate of authority to transport passengers in irregular route operations between points in the Metropolitan District. The application is unopposed.

The Compact, Title II, Article XI, Section 7(a), authorizes the Commission to issue a certificate of authority if it finds that the proposed transportation is consistent with the public interest and that the applicant is fit, willing, and able to perform the proposed transportation properly, conform to the provisions of the Compact, and conform to the rules, regulations, and requirements of the Commission.

Applicant proposes commencing operations with seven 28-passenger buses and two 44-passenger buses. Applicant's proposed contract tariff contains rates for shuttle bus service between points in the Metropolitan District pursuant to a contract with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). According to the application, EPA will provide the vehicles. According to the contract, applicant will provide all management and supervision, coordinate and ensure effective performance of shuttle bus services, insure and maintain all vehicles, and assume full liability for the acts of its employees.

Although the simple act of providing drivers to the government for the purpose of operating government-owned vehicles does not transform an entity into a passenger carrier within the meaning of the Compact, the contract in question clearly calls for more than a simple provision of drivers. It places the risk and responsibility for shuttle bus operations entirely on applicant. Accordingly, we find that under the EPA contract applicant will be assuming the role of a passenger carrier within the meaning of the Compact and therefore must possess a certificate of authority while performing the contract.

Applicant filed a balance sheet as of August 31, 1997, showing assets of \$915,507; liabilities of \$287,826; and equity of \$627,681. Applicant's projected operating statement for the first twelve months of WMATC operations shows WMATC operating income of \$743,823; expenses of \$732,004; and net income of \$11,819.

Applicant certifies it has access to, is familiar with, and will comply with the Compact and the Commission's rules and regulations thereunder.

Based on the evidence in this record, the Commission finds that the proposed transportation is consistent with the public interest and that applicant is fit, willing, and able to perform the proposed transportation properly, conform to the provisions of the Commact, and conform to the rules, regulations, and requirements of the Commission.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

- 1. That upon applicant's timely compliance with the requirements of this order, Certificate of Authority No. 420 shall be issued to Government Contracting Resources, Inc., trading as GCR, Inc., 1049 Burnbridge Road, Forest, VA 24551.
- 2. That applicant may not transport passengers for hire between points in the Metropolitan District pursuant to this order unless and until a certificate of authority has been issued in accordance with the preceding paragraph.
- 3. That applicant is hereby directed to file the following documents within thirty days: (a) evidence of insurance pursuant to Commission Regulation No. 58 and Order No. 4203; (b) an original and four copies of a tariff or tariffs in accordance with Commission Regulation No. 55; (c) an equipment list stating the year, make, model, serial number, vehicle number, license plate number (with jurisdiction) and seating capacity of each vehicle to be used in revenue operations; (d) evidence of ownership or a lease as required by Commission Regulation No. 62 for each vehicle to be used in revenue operations; (e) proof of current safety inspection of said vehicle(s) by or on behalf of the United States Department of Transportation, the State of Maryland, the District of Columbia, or the Commonwealth of Virginia; and (f) a notarized affidavit of identification of vehicles pursuant to Commission Regulation No. 61.
- 4. That the grant of authority herein shall be void and the application shall stand denied upon applicant's failure to timely satisfy the conditions of issuance prescribed herein.

BY DIRECTION OF THE COMMISSION; COMMISSIONERS ALEXANDER, LIGON, AND MILLER:

William H. McGilvery Executive Director